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AKTIVITÄT

KRAFTWERK FANZINE

This document contains the scanned pages of one of the Kraftwerk Aktivität Fanzines or complimentary publications that were produced from 1992 through to 1998.

During this time 10 Fanzines were published along with various update issues and other complimentary publications.

The scans have only been altered for clarity, with the exception of addresses and phone numbers that have now been blocked out. So please note that all errors and miss-information are as they appeared at the time of publication. Later issues tried to address the earlier problems as the production team put more stringent editorial practices in place.

KRAFTWERK CONFIRMED TO PLAY LIVE IN DENMARK THIS SUMMER.

Kraftwerk have been announced as one of the acts set to play live at this years 'Roskilde' music festival in Denmark on 25th June 1998. The date has been confirmed by the MCT concert agency that represents Kraftwerk and details are currently displayed on the websites for both MCT and the Roskilde Festival site itself. The URLs for these are;

<http://www.tickets.de/artists/art7.html>

<http://www.roskilde-festival.dk/1998/english/index.htm>

The Roskilde Festival is a long-established outdoor music festival and it would appear that after the success of their appearance at last years 'Tribal Gathering' event, Kraftwerk are prepared to play such events again.

TOPICS AT A GLANCE;

- KRAFTWERK CONFIRMED TO PLAY LIVE IN DENMARK THIS SUMMER
- KRAFTWERK WORLD TOUR THIS SUMMER?
- KARL BARTOS IN 'SOUND ON SOUND' INTERVIEW; NEW 'ELECTRIC MUSIC' ALBUM RELEASE
- KOMPUTER — 'THE WORLD OF TOMORROW'
- NEW BOOTLEGES
- MORE RELEASES FROM KLAUS DINGER-RELATED PROJECTS
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KRAFTWERK WORLD TOUR THIS SUMMER?

Kraftwerk have for some time had close links with the German company Doepfer, who have produced a number of items of musical instrumentation that Kraftwerk use. Doepfer's website (<http://www.doepfer.de>) recently displayed some tantalising information for a short while; I say a short while, as the information seems to have been hastily withdrawn from the website! Printed in both German and English version, the material indicates that Kraftwerk are perhaps set for further live work in 1998;

KRAFTWERK World Tour

KRAFTWERK will start in June 98 their world tour. They will visit Tokyo (about 03/06/98, blizz hall), San Francisco (about 07/06/98, war field), Los Angeles (about 09/06/98, Palladium), Detroit (about 11/06/98), New York (about 13/06/98). After that they will come back to Europe (Barcelona, Roskilde and may be Madrid). The new album will probably be finished before they start the tour. All dates are not yet 100% sure so that we cannot guarantee the informations.

Of course some of our products can be seen on stage during the tour: Schaltwerk, Regelwerk, MAQ16/3, A-100, MMR4/4, Sonderanfertigung Mini-Keyboards (beim Taschenrechner-Song), Sonderversionen Master-Keyboards (modifizierte LMK2 mit 61 Tasten).

The German version of the page actually featured more information, to the effect that the world tour itself is in fact confirmed, but that the actual dates are not 100% fixed.. Additionally, it also lists possible concerts in South America (Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo) in the summer. It also lists alternative dates for San Francisco (7.06./08.06.), Detroit (11.06./12.06.) and New York (13.06./14.06.).

NEW 'ELECTRIC MUSIC' ALBUM RELEASE

The March 1998 edition of the UK magazine 'Sound on Sound' features a 9-page interview with Karl Bartos, in which he goes into detail about his forthcoming 'Electric Music' album, as well as reminiscing on his time with Kraftwerk, including his thoughts on the 'Technopop'/'Electric Cafe' period.

As reported previously in Aktivität, the duo of Karl Bartos and Lothar Manteuffel that comprised Elektrik Music is no more and the forthcoming Electric Music (note the different spelling!) release is pretty much Bartos' own project now, though with a new collaborator in one Markus Loehr. The album will feature a far more guitar-laden sound, though the interview is at pains to point out the particularly unusual sample-driven approach that Bartos has incorporated in the work. The album is due for release (presumably in Germany initially, though it is not mentioned in the article) within the next month or so.

The article is well worth reading for Bartos' thoughts on his time with Kraftwerk, he being in particularly revealing mode on this occasion. Amongst the points discussed are Karl's views on some of the musical gear Kraftwerk used during his period with the band; from the use of standard keyboards such as the Moog Polymoog and Sequential Circuits Prophet V through his dissatisfaction with the Roland MC8 Microcomposer, to some of the custom-built items from the Bonn-based firm Matten & Weichers. As dwelt upon in previous interviews with Bartos, the subject of the NED Synclavier that was purchased in the mid-80s for Kraftwerk (seemingly bought by Ralf Hütter personally) against Bartos' advice is again discussed, as well as Bartos' frustrations with Kraftwerk's attempts to come to terms with the new wave of electronic music and technology of the mid-80s, with Kraftwerk seemingly making several costly mistakes; apart from the often told tale of the Synclavier, Karl also expresses dismay with the initial Linn Midi Sequencer, which he describes as 'terrible... unreliable and very expensive' and also notes "a time in Kraftwerk where I just sat around for two-and-a-half years reading manuals, programming a DX7 with two Atari computers... and not making one new composition".

Karl also confirms that while he was responsible for the programming on 'The Mix', which had been in the process of being recorded for some time before his departure in August 1990, he was not credited for his work on the album. 'The Mix' itself Karl notes was from a suggestion by Bob Kratzner, from Elektra records, Kraftwerk's US label, for a 'Best of Kraftwerk' record -- an idea which Ralf Hütter could only accommodate by rerecording the works, it seems. All in all, this interview is a very illuminating read and well worth tracking down. In newsagents NOW!

KOMPUTER □ 'THE WORLD OF TOMORROW'

Komputer have now released their debut LP of Kraftwerk-inspired material. I hope to include a fuller review in issue 10 of Aktivität, but in the meantime I would recommend anyone who has enjoyed their singles releases thus far to seek it out as they will not be disappointed. Tracklisting for this Mute records release is thus;

1. The World of Tomorrow, 2. More Automation, 3. Bill Gates, 4. Valentina, 5. Looking down on London, 6. Terminus/Interminus, 7. Singapore, 8. The Perfect Pop Band, 9. Komputer Pop, 10. Motopia, 11. Valentina (Phobos), 12. Valentina (Probe), 13. Looking down on London (Metroland).

NEW BOOTLEGS

The Kraftwerk bootleg production line would appear to be in overtime production mode! An almost unprecedented amount of bootleg CDs of various sorts have appeared in recent times -- and all this from a band who have played only a handful of concerts this decade!

'Lichtgestalten' (Live, Linz, Austria, 16.10.97)

CD1: Intro, Nummern, Computerwelt, Heimcomputer, Die Mensch Maschine, Tour De France, Autobahn, Ätherwellen, ZKM song (new song 1), Radioaktivität, Lichthof (new song 2)

CD2: TEE/Abzug/Metall Auf Metall, Taschenrechner, Die Roboter, Umweltverschmutzung (new song 3), Musik Non Stop (all from Linz, 16.10.97) + bonus tracks: Technopop (Demo Version), Tour de France (Arrivé Mix), Sex Object (Razormaid Mix)

'The Return of the Men Machine' -- this is a second double bootleg CD of the ZKM concert. It is a different, and better quality I am informed, source recording as opposed to the 'ZKM' bootleg set.

'Exclusive remixes' -- this is basically yet another repackaging of the 'Man Machine Recreated' remix bootleg CD.

'Live in Ludwigsburg 1997' (Double CD) -- a repackaging of the 'ZKM' bootleg featuring the Karlsruhe concert. not Ludwigsburg as the title states.

'Tour de Osaka' features a recording of the complete show from Osaka, Japan, 1981 plus the following bonus tracks; Numbers (Short Version), Numbers (Long Version) (Sonic Cover Records, RT 1059KR).

'Electric Magnacalita' features a recording of the complete show from Firenze 1981, mastered from the bootleg LP recording plus the following bonus tracks; Pocket Calculator (East Meets West Mix), Music Non Stop (Cut Up Mix), Trans Europe Express (TEE Mix). (Sonic Cover Records, RT 1050KR)

'Edinburgh Playhouse, UK 7-17-91' features a recording of the complete show from Edinburgh 1991 plus the following bonus tracks; The Model (Soundcheck), Pocket Calculator (Soundcheck), Computer World (Klick Mix) (Sonic Cover Records, RT 1048KR)

'Kraftwerk' features a recording of the complete show from Liverpool, 1981 plus the following bonus tracks; The Robots (Program Mix), Autobahn (People's Car Mix), Europe Endless (Open Border Mix) (Sonic Cover Records, RT1051KR)

'Japan Tokyo 8.9.81 / Utrecht Vredenburg, 12.10.81'

CD 1: Tokyo: Numbers, Computer World, Computer Love, Home Computer, Neon Lights, Autobahn, Showroom Dummies, TEE, plus bonus tracks; Radioactivity (William Orbit Hardcore Mix), Radioactivity (William Orbit Mix)

CD 2: Utrecht, mastered from the 'Machine' bootleg LP plus bonus tracks; The Telephone Call (Remix), The Telephone Call (House Phone), Der Telefon Anruf. (Sonic Cover Record, RT1099KR)

'Live 1981 Computer World Tour Vol. 1'

Münich 1981, part 1, mastered from the 'TBON PABOTHINK' vinyl bootleg LP (Sonic Cover Record, RT1046KR).



'Live 1981 Computer World Tour Vol. 2'

(Münich 1981, part 2, mastered from 'TBON PABOTHNK') (Sonic Cover Record, RT1046KR).

'Tribal Gathering 5.24.97'

Features the complete concert plus the following bonus tracks; Tour De France (French Version), Tour De France (Remix), Tour De France (10-Speed Instrumental)*, Tour De France (10-Speed Mix)* (Neither of these are actually by Kraftwerk.) (Sonic Cover Record, RT1047KR)

'Kraftwerk/75,76 Live'

Features the radio show recordings from Köln 1975 and Paris 1976 (Sonic Cover Record, RT1049KR)

MORE RE-RELEASES FROM KLAUS DINGER-RELATED PROJECTS

Firstly, it was stated in the last Update sheet (no. 5/6) that the 'Zeeland' album was recorded live in New Zealand -- this is in fact well wrong and it is actually a reference to Klaus Dinger's recording studio in the Netherlands.

Thomas Dinger: 'Für Mich' (Captain Trip, CTCD-078 (la! NEU? 1.000-8))

Same tracklisting as per the original LP release, plus two bonus tracks (apparently from the La Düsseldorf period); Kostprobe 1 (1-A Düsseldorf), (2.34) and Kostprobe 2 (1-A Düsseldorf), 5.20

la! NEU? - Rembrandt: 'God Strikes Back' (Captain Trip, CTCD-087 (la! NEU? 1.000-9)). Klaus Dinger is co-credited for production and mastering. He has also co-written one of the 25 album tracks: "Und dann? / So what?".

AKTIVITÄT 10

Is nearing completion; the original January/February window has of course now come and gone -- April is now the likely release date for this final issue of the fanzine.